

January 24, 1968

CPYRGHT

R70

BARKA - AGENCY

VIENNA, AUSTRIA, JAN. 24 (REUTERS)--FRANCE'S BEN BARKA KIDNAP SCANDAL HAS BEEN BLAMED BY BULGARIA'S SOFIA RADIO ON THE U.S. CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY.

A BROADCAST SATURDAY SAID THE C.I.A. HAD INSTRUCTED ITS AGENTS TO KIDNAP THE MOROCCAN OPPOSITION LEADER, MEHDI BEN BARKA, WHO DISAPPEARED IN PARIS LAST OCTOBER.

THE RADIO SAID THE C.I.A. 'S MAIN AIM WAS TO PREVENT BEN BARKA GOING TO THE TRI-CONTINENTAL SOLIDARITY CONFERENCE IN HAVANA AND ALSO TO EMBARRASS PRESIDENT CHARLES DE GAULLE ON THE EVE OF THE FRENCH PRESIDENTIAL ELECTIONS.

THE BROADCAST SAID: "THE REAL MURDERER OF BEN BARKA -- AMERICAN IMPERIALISM, THE ENEMY OF THE PEOPLES -- IS UNMASKED."

PB 8:50A